(d) the names of places notified as "Air Pollution Control Areas" under Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 during the last three years alongwith the views of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) No, Sir. Structural changes are not proposed in the Central Pollution Control Board.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Air Pollution Control Areas in the respective States are notified by the respective State Governments after consultation with their State Pollution Control Boards. In respect of the Union Territories the Central Government notifies Air Pollution Control Areas in consultation with the Central Pollution Control Board. The Central Government has notified the whole of Union Territory of Delhi, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Pondicherry as Air Pollution Control Area. The Central Government has not notified any new Air Pollution Control Area in last three years.

[English]

Encroachment on Forest Land

2523. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received demands from various organisations to regularise the encroachment of Adivasis on forest land; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Representations have been received from time to time from various fora for regularisation of encroachments over forest land.

(b) Detailed guidelines have been issued by this Ministry on 18.9.90 regarding regularisation of encroachments taken place over forest land. The proposals received from the various State Governments, in this regard, are examined in accordance with the guidelines mentioned above and provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. So far, a total of 16 proposals from 8 State/U.T. Governments have been received under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for regularisation of encroachments over forest land. Out of these, 5 proposals have been approved, 2 approved in principle, 8 are pending with the State Governments for essential details and 1 proposal has been rejected. Approval has been issued in respect of the States of Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

River Valley Projects in Sikkim

2524. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount given by the Central Government for the River Valley Projects in Sikkim during the last three years;

(b) whether annual inspection has been conducted to find out the proper utilisation of funds by the Government; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Ministry of Environment and Forests has not released any funds for the River Valley projects in Sikkim.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[Translation]

Production of Cotton

2525. SHRI O P JINDAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether many State Governments are soliciting help of the foreign countries to raise the cotton yield;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps propose to be taken by the Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) There is no information available with the Ministry of Agriculture regarding State Governments soliciting help of the foreign countries to raise the cotton yield.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

[English]

Livestock Training Institute

2526. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1451 on July 23, 1996 and state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision on the proposal submitted by the Government of Kerala for sanctioning of grants for the development of Livestock Training Institute at Mattupatti;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;